

#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kintu O. Early et al.
Serial No: 10/021,366
Filed: 12/12/01
For: TREATING SOOT PREFORMS WITH A
REDUCING AGENT



Examiner: TBA
Group Art Unit: 2874

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 – 1.98**

Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

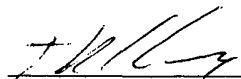
Dear Sir:

The Examiner's attention is hereby directed to the following reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. One copy of the reference(s) is enclosed.

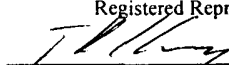
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the enclosed documents constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the submitted documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant(s) reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant(s) further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the enclosed references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

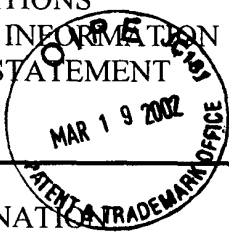
Respectfully submitted,


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Date: 3/12/02

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 | |
| on <u>3/12/02</u> | Date of Deposit |
| Timothy R. Krogh Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative | |
|  | Signature |
| <u>3/12/02</u> | Date of Signature |

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|---|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED) | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | SERIAL NO. |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | SP00-380 | COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED |
| | APPLICANT Early et al. | |
| | FILING DATE | GROUP: |



| REFERENCE DESIGNATION | | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------------|----------|--------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|
| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date if Approp. |
| | AA | 4,620,861 | 11/4/86 | Berkey | 65 | 3.12 | |
| | AB | 4,629,485 | 12/16/86 | Berkey | 65 | 3.11 | |
| | AC | 4,979,971 | 12/25/90 | Kyoto et al. | 65 | 3.12 | |
| | AD | | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | |
| | AF | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |
| | AK | | | | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|----|
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub-Class | Translation | |
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | AL | WO 98/18733 | 5/7/98 | WO | C03B | 29/02 | X | |
| | AM | | | | | | | |
| | AN | | | | | | | |
| | AO | | | | | | | |
| | AP | | | | | | | |
| | AQ | | | | | | | |

| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | |
|--|--|--|
| AR | "Optical Absorption of the Transition Elements in Vitreous Silica", Peter C. Schultz, Journal of the American Ceramic Society, Vol. 57, No. 7, July 1974 | |
| AS | Corning Incorporated Product Information. PI1199, Corning Submarine LEAF® Non-Zero Dispersion-Shifted Optical Fiber. 1999 | |
| AT | "Chemistry of the Elements" N.N. Greenwood et al., Pergamon Press, New York, 1984, pg. 352 | |

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.